

Message Text

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22

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

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DHA-02 /073 W

----- 041490

R 310806Z OCT 76

FM AMCONSUL TABRIZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 184

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL ISFAHAN

AMCONSUL SHIRAZ

UNCLAS TABRIZ 0051

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS IR

SUBJ: STUDENT STRIKE AT U OF AZARABADEGHAN SETTLED

REF: TABRIZ 0050

1. THE STRIKE AT THE UNIV OF AZARABADEGHAN IN TABRIZ HAS BEEN SETTLED BY COMPROMISE, WITH BOTH THE STUDENTS AND ADMINISTRATION CLAIMING FULL VICTORY. CLASSES ARE AGAIN FULL, AND THE STRIKE INCURRED NO VIOLENCE, ARRESTS, OR SERIOUS DISRUPTIONS.

2. ACCORDING TO THE CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIV, DR FAHIH, THE STUDENTS CAME TO REALIZE THAT THEY HAD MISINTERPRETED RUMOURS, AND AS SOON AS HE WAS ABLE TO EXPLAIN THE DETAILS OF THE CHANGE IN SCHOLARSHIP RULES TO THEM, THEY PEACEFULLY RETURNED TO CLASSES. HE, IN TURN, WAS WILLING TO IGNORE THEIR MANY ABSENCES AND PERMIT ALL OF THEM TO FINISH THE TERM TAKE EXAMS WITH NO PENALTIES. ACCORDING TO THE STUDENTS, THEIR PROTESTS FORCED TEHRAN TO PARTIALLY BACK DOWN, AND THE UNIT OF THE STRIKE MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO PUNISH ANYONE BY A "FAILURE FOR ABSENCES."

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3. THE CURRENT SCHOLARSHIP REGULATIONS STATE THAT ALL STUDENTS

WHO MAINTAIN A "C" AVERAGE WILL RECEIVE A STIPEND (AMOUNT TO BE DETERMINED BY STANDING IN SCHOOL) BUT ONLY THE TOP 5 PERCENT SCHOLASTICALLY WILL RECEIVE A "FULL" STIPEND. ONE STUDENT COMMENTED THAT BY ADJUSTING THE AMOUNTS CAREFULLY, THE UNIV WILL BE ABLE TO PAY THESE STIPENDS WITHIN THE SAME BUDGET AS THE SUGGESTED PROGRAM OF STIPENDS ONLY FOR THE TOP 35 PERCENT. AT ANY RATE, THE STUDENTS ARE HAPPY, THE UNIV IS OPEN, AND THE ADMINISTRATION IS PLEASED.

4. C

MENT: WHATEVER THE REALITIES OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP REGULATIONS, THE STUDENTS HAVE FOUND THAT THROUGH PEACEFUL AND ORGANIZED PROTESTS THEY CAN AND WILL BE HEARD, AND WILL BE FREE FROM REPRISALS. FACULTY MEMBERS UZPECT, AS A RESULT OF THIS STRIKE, THAT THERE WILL BE MARKED INCREASE IN STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN TABRIZ, BUT DON'T EXPECT THAT FUTURE ACTIONS WILL BE AS SUCCESSFUL, SINCE THEY FORSEE FEW ISSUES WHICH WILL AFFECT THE INTERESTS OF AS MANY STUDENTS AS THIS ONE. THE STUDENTS, HOWEVER, ARE GETTING A POLITICAL EDUCATION ALONG WITH THEIR FORMAL STUDIES. END COMMENT.
MCGAFFEY

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